

8 Her MAJESTY

AND

Her ROYAL FATHER
VINDICATED.

In ANSWER to a

PREFACE

TO THE

VOLUME OF SERMONS, &c.

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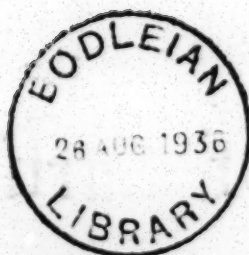
Bishop of Sarum.

In a LETTER to his Lordship.

L O N D O N,

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Her MAJESTY
AND
HER ROYAL FATHER
VINDICATED, &c.

My LORD,

YOUR Lordship's high Station and Character are so attractive of Esteem and Veneration, that Mens Minds are liable to be prepossess'd in favour of whatsoever Systems of Religion or Politicks you are pleas'd to give into; and the Preface to the new Edition of your *Pastoral Letter*, has so insinuated the Fears you are there under, of imaginary Persecutions, into your implicit Admirers, that it would be almost unpardonable in one whose *Admiration* is not yet arrived to that *Excess* which ends in *Stupidity*, not to make it his Endeavour

your to prevent their Falling under the
 like Apprehensions from this which
 now comes out by way of Introdu-
 ction to your Sermons. In order to
 this, I perswade my self that your
 Lordship will give me leave to say,
 that the writing in Defence of *Revo-
 lution-Principles* at this Time of Day,
 when the Administration of Affairs is
 carried on by such a gentle and un-
 erring Hand as Her Majesty, and there
 is nothing in her Government that
 calls for a Change; is little less than
 a Declaration of publick Grievances,
 and a Complaint of ill Usage from
 those who are, by God's and the
 Queen's Authority, placed over us.
 For, if I may be allow'd to explain my
 self, *Revolution-Principles* are such as
 are entertain'd by the Party which
meddles with those that are given to change;
 and therefore are justly detested by all
 that are enjoin'd by the Text not to
 go into their Measures, and according
 to the Tenor of it, are against Inno-
 vations in the present Settlement. Now
 that these should be accused of being
 wanting in their due Regards for the
 Mercies of the *Revolution* under the
 Conduct of the late King *William*, is
 as

as surprizing to me, as that your Lordship should own your self so *deeply engaged* in it, and to have a *full Knowledge of its whole Progress*, after you had profess'd such an Abhorrence of resisting the supreme Power, not only in several of your Sermons long before it was brought to bear, but your Letters to the Lord Middleton, and Answer to the Citation brought against you in *Scotland* for High Treason, just as it was upon the Anvil, and the Point of Execution : But I recover myself from my Wonder, by the Means of your excellent Distinction of a *total Subversion*, before which you was pleas'd to be in the Interests of Passive Obedience.

Not that the Partiality which always induces me to lean towards your Lordship's Opinions, can perswade me there is *all the Force of true Reasoning* in that Part of your Preface, where, after your being particular as to the Time of the *Dutch Fleet's Departure from Holland* for the Coasts of *England*, and their landing the Army at *Torbay*, you bring in Providence as an Agent in their Behalf, that cover'd them from *West Winds*, while the *King's Fleet* was so stop-
ped

ped and shatter'd by them, that the Lord Dartmouth could keep no longer at Sea, but was forced to go into Portsmouth; since the same Providence might as well have been introduced, in creating a general Defection among that unhappy Prince's Officers and Sailors, amongst whom few or none were inclinable to fight; So little Danger was the Naval Armament in, that brought the late King and your Lordship over, that notwithstanding the Lord Dartmouth was, upon his Accession to the Throne, committed to the Tower. I appeal to your Lordship, whether you have not heard that noble Lord mention'd as an Admiral, that might have come to an Engagement, had not he declined it, for Reasons well known to the then Prince of Orange. But your Lordship is sensible such an Assertion absolutely destroys the Notion of a Conquest; and where no one Resists, no one can be literally said to be defeated.

There is another Particular likewise, which I am under a Necessity of reminding your Lordship of, which is the judicious Comment you enlighten our Understandings with, in
re-

relation to the great Seal's being thrown into the *Thames*; since it is referr'd to your Lordship, whether if your Lordship had been in that deserted and abandon'd King's unfortunate Case, you would not have thought it an Act of Prudence, to hinder an Enemy from making Use of an Instrument that would have enforced the Observation of his Edicts, and kept it, as much as in you lay, out of his Possession: Or whether it is like your Lordship's nervous way of arguing, to affirm, that the *throwing it away in such a manner, seem'd to shew a Resolution to govern no more by Law, if he should return, but by the Sword.* For, I pray your Lordship to consider, that, upon such an Occasion as this, another Seal might have been made, as there actually was at the Accession of King *William* and Queen *Mary* to the Crown, by which Means the Consequence of governing by the *Sword* is entirely destroy'd, and I'm in your Lordship's Judgment, if I incur a Premunire by saying, the *Conclusion* and the *Premises* are at as great a Distance from one another, as *Salisbury* from *Geneva*.

Your

Your Lordship will do me the Justice to believe, that notwithstanding my Humanity to my once natural Lord and Sovereign, I do not here arraign the glorious Instruments of the Revolution, nor the Means it was accomplish'd by, since I am neither such an Enemy to Self-Preservation, as to draw your Lordship's Indignation down upon me, in turning Advocate for arbitrary Power; or such an Intermedler in Affairs, that do not fall under my Cognizance, as to dwell upon Topics wherein I am so unequal to their Discussions: But the Compassion I still retain for deceased Royalty, and the *Manes* of a Prince, whose best beloved Daughter now sits upon his Throne, and whom a certain Gentleman, whose Christian Name is *Gilbert*, has affirm'd, in his *Answer to the Criminal Letters issued out against him for High Treason*, to have done him many good Offices in reconciling him to the Duke of L-----le, oblige me to speak of him with greater Decency than is consistent with exasperated and ungrateful Pens. Since tho' he did break through the Fences of the Law, tho' he made Invasion on our Civil
and

and Religious Rights; though he set aside the Test-Act, by suspending the Execution of what was required by it; though he establish'd a High Commission-Court, kept a standing Army, ejected the Fellows of *Magdalen-College* in *Oxford*, came to violent Measures with the University of *Cambridge*, receiv'd a Nuntio from *Rome*, sent an Ambassador to that Court, had Papists amongst his Privy-Counsellors, and imprison'd the Bishops; yet to make those things Crimes in him, which were only owing to his Misfortunes, and nothing else but the Result of those ill-boding Planets that shined at his Nativity, is beneath the Dignity of one who has the Honour to sit on a Bench, by which the first Order of the Church is worthily distinguish'd. If the late King *James* was of too easie a Credulity, and suffer'd himself to be betray'd by ill Advisers; if he wanted Foresight in a true Knowledge of *S--nd*, and his Adherents, and gave Ear to his Judges, who told him, that the *Laws were the King's Laws*, and he might do by them whatsoever he pleased; if the Clergy, amongst whom you acted a very strenuous Part, on the side of

good Graces, if, upon the Account you give of the King's retiring to *Rochester*, rather than *Ham*, and his making his *Escape* from thence a second Time, (your Lordship will mind your own Word,) I not only refer you to another Pamphlet, called, *A Caveat against the Whiggs, in Three Parts*, which sets that Matter in a full Light, but do my self the Honour of congratulating with your Lordship on that happy Expression, since by it you give up all that can be contended for in Favour of a Retreat that cannot well be called *Voluntary*, while it goes under the Name of an *ESCAPE*. For amongst all the Lexographers I was ever acquainted with, all *Escapes* are apply'd to imminent Dangers; and if that Prince was actually under those Circumstances, as this Word very naturally implies him to be, and which, I am told, he was appriz'd of by a certain Letter from his greatest Enemy, none that wish'd the Preservation of his Life, or had at Heart the Vengeance that must follow such as imbrew their Hands in the Blood of the Lord's Anointed, could blame him for looking out for a Place of Sanctuary

Quary elsewhere, as he did in the
French Court, which was the only Place
 he could then retire to, most of all
 the other Courts of *Europe* being en-
 ter'd into strict Engagements with his
 Enemies. But I shall avoid giving
 the least Handle of Offence in any
 Suggestions of my own upon this
 Head; the King's own Words, relat-
 ing to the Apprehensions he was un-
 der upon his Departure, cannot be
 misconstrued, or (if they are) make
 me Responsible for them, therefore
 your Lordship, who has omitted so
 material a Passage, as the Reasons for
 that Monarch's *Desertion*, will, I dare
 engage, without Violence to your
 Christian Temper, vouchsafe to admit
 them once more into your serious
 Thoughts, though you have before
 this judg'd them worthy of a Place
 there, by very severe Animadversions.
 The Paper that His Majesty left upon
 the Table in his Bed-Chamber, if your
 Lordship will be pleased to remember,
 ran verbatim thus.

His

His Majesty's Reasons for withdrawing himself from Rochester.

“ **T** H E World cannot wonder at
 “ my withdrawing my self now
 “ this second Time. I might have ex-
 “ pected somewhat better Usage, af-
 “ ter what I have writ to the Prince
 “ of Orange by my Lord *Feversham*,
 “ and the Instructions I gave him.
 “ But instead of an Answer, such as I
 “ might have hoped for, what was I
 “ to expect after the Usage I receiv’d,
 “ by the making the said Earl a Pri-
 “ soner, against the Practice and Law
 “ of Nations? The sending his own
 “ Guards, at Eleven at Night, to take
 “ Possession of the Posts at *White-Hall*,
 “ without advertizing me in the least
 “ manner of it: The sending to me
 “ at one of the Clock at Midnight,
 “ when I was in Bed, a kind of Or-
 “ der, by three Lords, to be gone out
 “ of my Palace before Twelve the
 “ same Morning. After all this, how
 “ could I hope to be safe, so long as
 “ I was in the Power of one, who
 “ had not only done this to me, and
 “ in-

" invaded my Kingdoms without any
 " just Occasion given for it, but that did,
 " by his own Declaration, lay the great-
 " est Asperſion on me, that Malice could
 " invent, in the Clause of it which
 " concerns my Son? I appeal to
 " all that know me, nay, even to
 " himſelf, that in their Conſciences,
 " neither he, nor they, can believe
 " me in the leaſt capable of ſo un-
 " natural a Villany, nor of ſo little
 " common Senſe, as to be impos'd on
 " in a Thing of ſuch a Nature as that.
 " What had I then to expect from
 " one, who, by all Arts, hath taken
 " ſuch Pains to make me as black as
 " Hell to my People, as well as to all
 " the World beſides? What Effect that
 " hath had at Home, all Mankind
 " hath ſeen, by ſo general a Deſection
 " in my Army, as well as in the Na-
 " tion, amongst all ſorts of People.

" I was born free, and deſire to
 " continue ſo: And though I have
 " ventured my Life very frankly, on
 " ſeveral Occaſions, for the Good and
 " Honour of my Country, and am as
 " free to do it again, (and which I
 " hope I ſhall yet do, as old as I am,
 " to redeem it from the Slavery it is
 " like

“ like to fall under) yet I think it not
 “ convenient to expose my self to be
 “ so secured, as not to be at Liberty
 “ to effect it; and for that Reason to
 “ withdraw, but so as to be within
 “ Call, whensoever the Nation’s Eyes
 “ shall be opened, so as to see how
 “ they have been impos’d upon, by
 “ the specious Pretences of *Liberty*
 “ and *Property*. I hope it will please
 “ God to touch their Hearts, out of
 “ his infinite Mercy, and to make
 “ them sensible of the ill Condition
 “ they are in, and bring them to such
 “ a Temper, that a Legal Parliament
 “ may be called; and that, amongst
 “ other Things which may be necessa-
 “ ry to be done, they will agree to
 “ Liberty of Conscience for all Prote-
 “ stant Dissenters; and that those of
 “ my own Perswasion may be so far
 “ consider’d, and have such a share in
 “ it, as they may live peaceably and
 “ quiet, as *Englishmen* and Christians
 “ ought to do, and not be oblig’d to
 “ transplant themselves; which would
 “ be very grievous, especially to such
 “ who love their Country. And I ap-
 “ peal to all Men, who are consider-
 “ ing Men, and have had Experience,
 “ whe-

“ whether any thing can make this
 “ Nation so great and flourishing as
 “ *Liberty of Conscience*. Some of our
 “ Neighbours dread it.

“ I should add much more to con-
 “ firm what I have said, but now it
 “ is not the proper Time.

Rochester, Dec.
 22. 1688.

Your Lordship has indeed prudent-
 ly omitted this in your Preface, which
 might have swell'd it self to too
 great a Bulk, had it been printed
 with your Remarks upon it; but the
 same Inducements that seem to have
 brought you to this desultory Me-
 thod of leaping over all Obstacles
 that lie in your Way, have obliged
 me to place them there; since how
 pregnant soever your Lordship's Brain
 is, and copious in Stile and Invention,
 I should never, without it, have
 made up Three Half-Sheets, or a-
 voided the Charge of the Stamps, by
 my Observations upon this last To-
 ken.

ken of your indefatigable Labours, for the Good of the Publick, and the *Quieting* the Minds of all Her Majesty's Subjects, by unhappy Transitions into Fears and Jealousies, at the very Moment when the Peace is sign'd, and we are just going to reap the blessed Effects of it.

I should here follow your Lordship thro' the remaining Part of your Invectives against your once natural Lord and Sovereign; but I am forc'd to pass by several Things worthy of Notice, to vindicate Her present Majesty from the Charge that is seemingly brought against her, of *Heading an Army commanded by the Bishop of London*, against her own Leige King and Father. For I cannot but condole with your Lordship on your Loss of Memory, since you, who take upon you to refresh those of *young People*, should never go about so edifying a Work without your own. For the present Queen was so far from being in *Arms*, against King James, which is the Cry of a certain Party with whom the Author of the *Plying-Post* is

is an Oracle, that she withdrew Her self from *White-Hall*, out of mere Anguish of Mind, for her Royal Consort's going over to the Prince of *Orange*; and tho' she had a Troop of Gentlemen, that attended Her as Guards at *Nottingham*, and elsewhere, which did themselves the Honour of chusing the Bishop of *London* for their Leader; yet it is well known, Her Majesty, when Princess, neither entered into the Measures that were afterwards taken for declaring the Throne vacant, nor the Prince her Husband, who at that Time had no Vote in the House of Peers, nor, till the Coronation, had a Right to sit there; though afterwards, upon that happy Settlement, they both thought fit to prefer the Glory of God, and the Welfare of the Nation to all earthly Considerations. But Her Majesty's own Letter to the Queen Consort is enough to set your Lordship right; I shall therefore give it after the same Manner as I find it in Print.

MADAM,

‘ I Beg your Pardon, if I am so
 ‘ deeply affected with the *surpri-*
 ‘ *zing News of the Prince’s being gone,*
 ‘ *as not to be able to see you,* but to
 ‘ leave this Paper to express my *hum-*
 ‘ *ble Duty* to the King and your self;
 ‘ and to let you know, that I am
 ‘ gone to *absent* my self, to *avoid the*
 ‘ *King’s Displeasure,* which I am not
 ‘ able to bear, either against the Prince
 ‘ or my self; and I shall stay at so
 ‘ great a Distance, as not to return
 ‘ before I hear the happy News of a
 ‘ Reconciliation, And as I am con-
 ‘ fident the Prince did not leave the
 ‘ King with any other Design, than
 ‘ to use all possible Means for his
 ‘ Preservation; so I hope you will do
 ‘ me the Justice to believe, that I am
 ‘ not capable of following him for any
 ‘ other End: Never was any one in
 ‘ such an unhappy Condition, so divi-
 ‘ ded between Duty and Affection to
 ‘ a Father and a Husband; and there-
 fore

' fore I know not what to do, but to
 ' follow one to preserve the other.
 ' I see the general falling off of the
 ' Nobility and Gentry, who avow to
 ' have no other End, than to prevail
 ' with the King to secure their Reli-
 ' gion, which they saw so much in
 ' Danger by the violent Counsels of
 ' the Priests, who, to promote their
 ' own Religion, did not care to what
 ' Dangers they expos'd the King.
 ' I am fully perswaded, that the Prince
 ' of *Orange* designs the King's Safety
 ' and Preservation, and hope all things
 ' may be compos'd, without more
 ' Bloodshed, by the Calling of a Par-
 ' liament. God grant a happy End to
 ' these Troubles, that the King's Reign
 ' may be prosperous, and that I may
 ' shortly meet you in Peace and Safe-
 ' ty: Till when, let me beg you
 ' to continue the same favourable
 ' Opinion that you hitherto had of,
 &c.

This Letter being collected out of
 the Works of a Reverend Historian
 of great Credit with your Lordship,
 will

will, I hope, in the next Impression of this valuable Preface, have as much Weight with you, as to make you give it some Alteration, in relation to that Part Her Majesty bore in the Revolution. In the mean time I have in Command to inform you, from a Person well known to your Lordship, that the Right Reverend Bishop of London, whose Name has been more than once made use of, when you have been pleas'd to appear in Print, is so very far from being surpriz'd at your doing him the Honour of being Captain of the Guard *de Corps* to so glorious a Princess, that it will be long enough before he'll ever launch out into your celebrated Exclamation, and cry, *Who would have thought it?*

As for me, who would willingly have taken this Opportunity of running over your Sermons, especially that on Her Majesty's Accession to the Throne, with those preach'd to my Lord Russell in Newgate, as also your new Homilies; all which I shall do my self the Honour

(23)

nour of Commenting upon very speedily. I am, with all bounden Duty and Observance,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's

Most Obedient Servant,

A. B.

F I N I S.

hour of Commencement upon very close
study I am well of London Dock
and Ordnance

15 Jan

Dear Sir

My Obedient Son

A. R.

21 N 1 3

